



North Dakota Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Summary



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

Nothing Significant to Report

REGIONAL

(Michigan) Responders get educated on IEDs. Local law enforcement officials, emergency responders, and police officers gathered at Howell High School in Livingston, Michigan October 25 for a special training session covering improvised explosive devices, or IEDs. The session was headed by a Michigan State University instructor, who is also a certified bomb technician. It was paid for by a grant from DHSy. The Howell Area Fire Department deputy chief said the training focused primarily on recognition of explosive devices. If officers discover either a device itself or materials used to make devices, they are instructed immediately to contact experts. In the case of Livingston County emergency personnel, they would contact the Michigan State Police bomb squad. In addition to training, the sheriff said local law enforcement officials work closely with the FBI and other agencies to investigate possible IED-creating activity. Source:

http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20101027/NEWS01/101027002

(Minnesota) 7 more sickened after drinking raw milk in Minn. Illnesses in seven more people have been tied by to the consumption of raw milk from a farm in Sibley County, Minnesota, that was implicated in an E. coli outbreak earlier in 2010, the Minnesota Department of Health reported October 28. Three people were infected with a bacterium called campylobacter jejuni and the other four with a parasite, cryptosporidium parvum, after drinking raw milk. All seven reported drinking raw milk, and those who named a source said it was the Hartmann Dairy Farm, the department said. Laboratory tests determined the bacterium and parasite in most of the ill people were genetically identical to samples taken from the farm this summer. Both result in similar symptoms, including fever, diarrhea and vomiting. Cryptosporidium can be life threatening for people with weak immune systems. The seven people were sickened from late July to late August. Source:

http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9J4UMJO0.htm

(Minnesota) Lewiston battles drinking water woes. City officials in Lewiston, Minnesota, will consider installing a water filtration system after recent tests found high levels of nitrates and radium in the town's drinking water. Residents currently use blended water from two different wells. City officials added a deep well 10 years ago to dilute rising nitrate levels in drinking water. The new well brought nitrate levels down, but introduced higher levels of radium to the city's system — a common symptom of deep aquifers, said a health educator for the Minnesota Department of Health's Drinking Water Program. Water at that level picks up more naturally occurring minerals like iron, manganese, and radium. Now, even the diluted water is fluctuating in quality, with nitrate levels reaching closer to the federally mandated maximum of 10 parts per million, said a district engineer for the department. Water in the deep aquifer carries higher levels of radium than is allowed by the Safe Drinking Water Act, but adding a filtration system will rectify the problem and improve pumping

efficiency. It will also reduce iron and manganese levels and improve the water's appearance. Source: http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/local/state-and-regional/article b6b88cb4-e182-11df-a5fd-001cc4c002e0.html

(Minnesota) Chemical leak in Owatonna sent 3 to hospital. A chemical leak in Owatonna, Minnesota, sent three workers to the hospital October 25, and halted activity at a window and door hardware production facility for many hours, authorities said October 26. The leak occurred about 5:20 p.m. at the Truth Hardware site when a valve broke as a worker was discharging sulfuric acid, the fire chief said. About 300 gallons of the chemical were lost. The worker was decontaminated at the scene, taken to a hospital in Owatonna, and then moved by air ambulance to a second hospital. The employee's condition was not immediately known. Two other workers were also taken to a hospital for evaluation. With the help of a state assessment team, the chemical was neutralized and the scene deemed clear about 1:45 a.m. October 26. Source:

http://www.startribune.com/local/105772228.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUvckD8EQDUZ

(Minnesota) Damaged grain elevated closes Hwy. 22 at Minnesota Lake. A Minnesota Lake, Minnesota grain bin is starting to collapse and is leaking corn, prompting authorities to re-route Highway 22 through town and evacuate about six homes October 22. The chief deputy for the Faribault County Sheriff's Office in Minnesota said a construction company was expected to reach the city about 5 p.m. and begin safely taking down the silo. The county brought lights to allow the company to work through the night. Nearby power lines were de-activated, and six homes behind the silo were evacuated, the chief deputy said, out of concern the bin could take down the lines and possibly explode. The leak was discovered at about 12:30 p.m. October 22. The cause of the damage was not clear. Source: http://mankatofreepress.com/local/x1744210596/Damaged-grain-elevated-closes-Hwy-22-at-Minnesota-Lake

(Wyoming) Possible brucellosis case in Park Co., Wyo., cows. Preliminary tests indicated the bacterial disease brucellosis has been found in three cows in northern Wyoming. The Wyoming Livestock Board said more tests are being done to confirm the disease in the cows from a single herd in Park County. Nearby herds also are being tested. Results could take about 2 weeks. Brucellosis is a bacterial disease that can cause pregnant bison, cattle, and elk to abort their fetuses. Strict measures are taken if it spreads to cattle in order to protect the beef industry. Wyoming last had a confirmed case of brucellosis in cattle just over 2 years ago in Sublette County. Source: http://www.farmforum.net/node/24265

NATIONAL

(Louisiana) Halliburton admits skipping test on Gulf well cement. Halliburton Co. acknowledged October 28 it skipped doing a critical test on the final formulation of cement used to seal the BP oil well that blew out in the Gulf of Mexico. The company, which was BP's cementing contractor, said BP at the last-minute increased the amount of a critical ingredient in the cement mix. While an earlier test showed the cement was stable, the company never performed a stability test on the new blend. The cement's failure to prevent oil and gas from entering the well has been identified as one of the causes of the April 20 disaster. Halliburton said a successful test was performed on a mixture different than the one eventually used. While some tests were conducted on the new formulation

requested by BP, those tests did not include a foam stability test. Halliburton made the admission in a statement responding to October 28 findings by the Presidential oil spill commission. A commission staff letter said BP and Halliburton knew weeks before the Deepwater Horizon explosion the cement mixture they planned to use to seal the new well was unstable but still completed the work. Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39894210/ns/us_news-environment/

Calif. pipeline explosion draws attention to work conditions. The explosion of a natural gas pipeline in San Bruno, California has underscored a growing concern about the capabilities of utility employees who watch over the nation's pipelines and whose errors have been linked to a number of mishaps, some of them catastrophic. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has said that among the questions it is investigating in the September 9 explosion is whether workers at a PG&E pipeline-monitoring terminal in Milpitas, California, were fatigued or poorly trained. Just 8 days after the blast, the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) moved to speed up adoption of a rule to ensure that workers doing similar jobs at companies across the country are well-trained and rested — especially because many of those workers put in 12-hour shifts. Three days after the San Bruno explosion, which killed eight, the California Public Utilities Commission ordered PG&E to preserve all records at the Milpitas terminal, which monitors operations on the gas transmission line that ruptured, and to allow investigators with the NTSB to interview the workers there. A few days later, the NTSB vice chairman revealed that the agency also was looking into the computerized system PG&E depends on to monitor and control the flow of gas.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-

dyn/content/article/2010/10/23/AR2010102300176.html

INTERNATIONAL

4 killed in bus attacks in northern Mexico. Armed men opened fire on buses carrying assembly plant workers near the Texas border October 28, killing four people and wounding 15 others in the latest spasm of violence to rattle Mexico. Authorities in the northern state of Chihuahua said the victims, identified as employees of a U.S. car-upholstery plant called Eagle Ottawa, were riding home about 1 a.m. when three company buses came under fire outside Ciudad Juarez. Witnesses said gunmen jumped aboard looking for a male passenger. Source:

http://www.kentucky.com/2010/10/28/1499457/4-killed-in-bus-attacks-in-northern.html

Explosive device found on Reynosa's Puente Broncos. Undetonated explosive devices have been found at the Puente Broncos in Reynosa, Mexico for 2 days in a row. Reynosa city officials reported a "situation of risk" at the bridge October 22. Authorities later clarified that an undetonated explosive device had been found on top of the bridge. One explosive device reportedly detonated at the Gayosso Funeral Home next to the bridge. Another undetonated explosive device was left under the bridge October 21. The roadway links downtown Reynosa to several busy shopping centers and the highway to Monterrey. Several gun battles and explosive devices have been reported at the bridge since February. Source: http://www.valleycentral.com/news/story.aspx?id=529932

Hurricane hits Belize, could reach Mexico oil fields. Hurricane Richard struck the tiny Central American nation of Belize October 24, blowing roofs off houses and knocking out electricity as tourists and residents huddled in emergency shelters. Richard, which made landfall just south of Belize City, was expected to weaken to a tropical depression and enter northern Guatemala October

25, continuing into southeastern Mexico and the southern Gulf of Mexico by late October 25 or early October 26, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said. The storm, which is expected eventually to pass through Mexico's main oil producing region in the Bay of Campeche, packed maximum sustained winds of 90 miles per hour. It was centered about 30 miles west southwest of Belize City at 10 p.m. October 25. Richard will likely power through Belize and southern Mexico to enter the Bay of Campeche, where Mexico produces more than two-thirds of its 2.6 million barrels-per-day of crude output. Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2420133720101025

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

Fraudsters find holes in debit card fraud detection. Over the last few weeks, criminals have been exploiting weak fraud detection systems used for debit cards with "flash" attacks, where hundreds of withdrawals are made over a very short period of time. Banking executives have noticed a rise in such attacks, where fraudsters withdraw money throughout a wide region within minutes, said a Gartner vice president, who frequently consults with banks about fraud issues. "The fraud happens within 10 minutes in these geographic diverse locations," she said. The amounts withdrawn are usually within a range that would not immediately raise a red flag, the vice president said. She said a Canadian banker she spoke with noticed withdrawals from 100 ATMs all over Canada within 10 minutes. The pattern shows the criminal gangs are clearly coordinating the timing of the withdrawals using money mules, or people who are hired to do the risky job of taking fraudulent payment cards to ATMs that are often under video surveillance. The fraudsters seem to be targeting debit cards, which have less sophisticated fraud detection systems in place than credit cards, the vice president said. Credit card systems are more likely to catch anomalies such as when a person uses a card in New York, and then just hours later a transaction with the same card shows up in California. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9193378/Fraudsters find holes in debit card fraud det ection

(Alabama) Bomb threat at FNB Bank in Bridgeport. Jackson County investigators are looking into a fake bomb threat that occurred on the afternoon of October 26 at FNB Bank in Bridgeport, Alabama. According to a police spokesman, a person called the bank and told the teller to wire an undisclosed amount of money to a private account. "He said, if not, a bomb would be set off in the bank," the spokesman said. Bridgeport police and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene. "The bank was evacuated," the spokesman said. "We conducted an investigation and a search of the building. No bomb was located." The spokesman said no arrests have been made. "At this time, we're tracking down some leads," he said. Source: http://thedailysentinel.com/news/article-45892eac-e1e8-11df-8df9-001cc4c002e0.html

ASX bond futures platform crashes after data. The Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) bond futures trading platform crashed October 27, just days after Singapore Exchange Ltd. bid 8.2 billion for the stock and futures market operator. The trading platform went down after third quarter inflation data prompted a scramble for front-end bonds as traders bet the central bank would not need to hike rates. ASX Ltd. blamed a system error for the crash, which stopped the ASX 24 trading platform from matching trades. Buy and sell orders are matched in the electronic machine engine in milliseconds to make an official trade. Trading resumed in core products such as bond futures just over 90 minutes later. Traders were scathing at the outage, citing expensive trading costs associated with the ASX, and complaining of previous system crashes. Interest rate futures traders were especially caught given

inflation numbers were softer than anticipated, dousing expectations of a rate hike by the Reserve Bank of Australia. Singapore Exchange's takeover bid for the ASX has sparked an outcry among some key lawmakers in Australia who question whether the deal is in the national interest, citing Singapore's record on democracy and the freedom of speech. Source: http://blogs.wsj.com/marketbeat/2010/10/26/asx-bond-futures-platform-crashes-after-data/

G20 finance ministers meet amid currency war threat. The world's top finance officials will meet during the week of October 25-29 in the South Korean city of Gwangju amid fears about a so-called currency war between the world's financial superpowers. The 2-day gathering of the Group of 20 (G20) finance ministers and central bankers, which starts October 29, is meant to help set the agenda for next month's summit of G20 leaders in Seoul. But concerns about a ramped-up conflict over currency rates is threatening to cast a shadow over the meeting. "It all seems to be about exchange rates and banking rules," said the Societe Generale chief European economist who believes the real risk facing the meeting is that it might fail to ease the tensions gripping global foreign exchange (forex) markets. Some experts fear a further escalation in forex rhetoric could derail the Gwangju meeting, which is supposed to focus on a proposed overhaul of the international financial system — including talks on a financial-market transaction tax and tough new bank capital rules. The tensions that have taken hold in forex markets follow the push by countries to bolster their national economic performances by weakening their currencies. Source:

http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/business/news/article 1592566.php/PREVIEW-G20-finance-ministers-meet-amid-currency-war-threat

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

(Nevada) Robot soldiers patrol America's radioactive waste dump. After many years of development and testing, America's National Nuclear Security Administration has announced that an autonomous robot soldier has begun patrolling its radioactive waste facility in Nevada. The "Mobile Detection Assessment Response System" (MDARS), looks like a golf buggy full of microscopes. It comes equipped with a bright light and a loudspeaker. The MDARS can travel at speeds up to 20 mph, and it is expected to save the Nevada site more than \$1 million a year on labor and equipment costs. Source: http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2010/oct/24/nasa-robots-on-patrol

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(Nevada) Gunman opens fire in Reno Walmart, injures 3. A gunman was holed up October 29 at a Walmart in Reno, Nevada, after three employees were shot and hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries, police said. About 100 people in the store were safely evacuated, police said. The lone gunman entered the store about 8:30 a.m. and started shooting in the direction of an employee or employees, the Reno deputy police chief said. "To our knowledge, he's the only one in the store," he told The Associated Press. "We don't know anything about the gunman yet or his motives." Police believe the gunman was in a back room. The deputy police chief said they were trying to contact him, but there was no dialogue so far. Employees were placed on a bus in the parking lot of a sporting goods store next to the Walmart. Washoe County deputies, Sparks police, and the FBI joined Reno police in sweeping the store to be sure there were no hostages. Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jaRcGfdb6w0qmquVprS9JYRLT9Hg?docId=9f 933ea28d1e424ab7e6d0ed61a26ccc

(Ohio) Pipe bomb found after vehicle crashes into church. A Newark, Ohio man was arrested after driving a van with a functional pipe bomb into a Licking Township, Ohio, church while attempting to evade law enforcement. Franklin County's bomb squad found a 12-inch pipe bomb in the back seat of a van the man drove into Vineyard Grace Fellowship Church October 27, a Licking County Sheriff's Office official said. The man drove into the church after a short pursuit with law enforcement. After crashing the van, he told deputies he had a pipe bomb in the vehicle. Officers rendered the pipe bomb safe that afternoon. Deputies are investigating why the suspect, suspected of using alcohol, had a pipe bomb in his vehicle. Source:

http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20101028/NEWS01/10280348

Retail sector hit hardest by targeted cyber attacks in October, report reveals. Targeted cyber attacks have increased significantly in the past 5 years, Symantec's MessageLabs Intelligence most recent report has revealed. According to the October 26 report, such attacks are up from 1 or 2 per week in 2005 to 77 attacks per day in the past month. For the first time, targeted attacks hit the retail sector hardest, increasing from a steady monthly average of 0.5 percent of all attacks over the past 2 years to 25 percent in October, when 1 in 1.26 million e-mails was linked to a targeted attack. While targeted e-mails are typically in low volume, they are one of the most damaging types of malicious attacks, said a senior analyst at MessageLabs Intelligence. The number of attacks against the retail sector also jumped to 516 in the past month, compared with just 7 attacks per month for much of 2010. "The spear phishing attacks, launched in three waves each one week apart, used social engineering techniques to distribute legitimate-looking e-mails with malicious attachments that appeared to be from HR and IT staff of the targeted organization," the analyst said. Source: http://www.computerweekly.com/Articles/2010/10/26/243537/Retail-sector-hit-hardest-by-targeted-cyber-attacks-in-October-report.htm

(California) Crews still searching for possible explosives. As firefighters continue to monitor hot spots October 22 after a devastating fire at the Roseville Galleria in Roseville, California, crews are still searching for possible explosives inside the mall, investigators are still questioning the suspect, and city leaders are pledging to help get the massive mall up and running before the crucial holiday season. The 24-year-old suspect allegedly started the entire incident when he barricaded himself inside the mall after telling people he was armed, and setting a fire inside a mall store. Police said the suspect made a statement while in custody indicating there may be some sort of explosive device inside his backpack, which was left inside the mall. Bomb technicians were planning to send in another robot to investigate the backpack. The first robot was damaged when the fire erupted and the roof collapsed at the mall. Fire crews also have released a preliminary damage estimate saying that at least 20 stores have actual fire damage. But they also said there is extensive smoke and water damage throughout the entire wing of the mall. The governor of California declared a state of emergency in the Sacramento suburb after the fire caused at least \$6.5 million in damage. The Roseville city manager said that unburned portions of the mall could reopen within weeks. Source: http://cbs13.com/breakingnews/roseville.galleria.store.2.1975418.html

(Arizona) **Pipe bombs found behind Springdale drug store.** Two pipe bombs were found in a trash can outside a drug store in Springdale, Arizona October 22. The incident occurred at USA Drug on Sunset Avenue. An employee called police after finding a suspicious backpack in a trash can behind the building. An off-duty officer happened to be in the pharmacy at the time. He looked inside the

bag and suggested the employee call police. The Bentonville Bomb Squad was called in. They confirmed there were two pipe bombs inside. They sent in a robot to detonate the bombs. Just before 6 p.m. the bomb squad performed the first detonation. About 10 minutes later a second detonation was performed. Police said there were also tools inside the backpack that are often used in burglaries. They are now trying to connect this incident with a break-in that happened at the pharmacy overnight. Someone broke into the building and left a hole in the roof. Nothing was taken according to police. Police have no suspects at this time. Source: http://www.kfsm.com/kfsm-news-springdale-drugstore-bomb-squad,0,7491119.story

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

(Utah) 3 charged with stealing 20 miles of copper wire from telephone poles. Arrest warrants were issued for three Colorado men accused of stealing more than 20 miles of copper wire from telephone poles in eastern Uintah County, Utah. The suspects were charged October 20 in 8th District Court with one count each of theft, a second-degree felony. A Strata Networks representative contacted Uintah County sheriff's investigators in August to report the telecommunications company was missing 20 miles of copper transmission line from its poles. The missing line spanned from the Green River Bridge near Jensen to the Old Bonanza Highway and then south into the oil and natural gas fields of Uintah County, according to court records. Deputies said they visited a metal recycling center in Vernal, where they obtained samples of copper wire that matched the missing wire. A recycling center employee said the wire had been purchased from one of the suspects and a third man, court records state. Investigators tracked the suspect to a trailer court in Colorado and questioned him. He admitted to taking "downed lines" from the area, and said the other two suspects had helped him, the charges state. A spokesman for Strata Networks, said the copper line was still affixed to the telephone poles when it was taken. "It had recently been abandoned but before we had a chance to go get it, some individuals came and helped themselves to it," he said. Source: http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700076777/3-charged-with-stealing-20-miles-of-copper-wire-

from-telephone-poles.html

iPhone security flaw allows hackers to make calls even when locked. A security hole has been discovered in iPhones running iOS 4.1, which allows anyone to bypass the iPhone lock screen to make unauthorized phone calls. According to a MacForums member, the flaw can be exploited by simply tapping the emergency call button, then dialing any non-emergency number instead, and immediately tapping the lock screen, which will give the user access to the phone's contacts app. Reports have already emerged that this method does not work with the iOS 4.2 beta, so presumably Apple already knows about it and is working on fixing it. iOS 4.2 is expected to hit supported devices in November 2010. Source:

http://top10.com/mobilephones/news/2010/10/iphone security flaw allows hackers to make cal ls even when locked/

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

(Ohio) Police: Man charged with 2 murders at Ohio plant. Police said a man has been charged with two counts of aggravated murder after he allegedly shot two people to death October 22 at an Ohio manufacturing plant. The charges come days after authorities said the man killed a 49-year-old employee outside the Cleveland manufacturing plant where she worked. Police said the killer used

the victim's employee identification card to get inside the building and then shot the victim's coworker as well. Authorities said the victim had filed a menacing by stalking report against her killer in July 2010, but later decided not to press charges. Source:

http://www.wkbn.com/content/news/ohstate/story/Police-Man-charged-with-2-murders-at-Ohio-plant/LWHVsF4Kc0O42nWG5Wq1hw.cspx

DEFENSE / INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

Mesa aviation executive indicted on arms charges. The owner of an east Mesa, Arizona company that converts aging World War II aircraft into firefighting air tankers has been indicted by a federal grand jury in connection with the unauthorized export of military aircraft engines to the Venezuelan Air Force. The two-count indictment alleged the CEO of Marsh Aviation Co. violated the Arms Export Control Act and engaged in a conspiracy in the export of engines designed for the OV-10 Bronco, a light armed reconnaissance aircraft suited for counter-insurgency missions. The engines are listed on the United States Munitions List, and their export is illegal without a license or written authorization from the State Department, according to the indictment returned the week of October 25 in Phoenix. The indictment also alleged the CEO and his firm furnished assistance to members of the Venezuelan Air Force, including training, in the assembly, testing, repair, maintenance, modification, operation, and use of the T-76 military aircraft engine, without the required license or written authorization from the State Department. Source: http://tucsoncitizen.com/arizona-news/2010/10/28/mesa-aviation-executive-indicted-on-arms-charges/

(Massachusetts) FBI raids home of missile systems expert in Melrose. Federal agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raided a house on Lincoln Street in Melrose, Massachusetts October 25, and carried out boxes of files and records from the home. The homeowner is a former employee of Raytheon. He is listed as having taken out three patents on missile warhead concepts. He has also written books on warhead technology. According to a federal law enforcement official, the man had been stopped at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City while trying to board a flight with a Raytheon laptop computer that had information that he was not authorized to have. Source: http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/home-of-ex-raytheon-worker-searched-in-melrose-25-apx-20101025

US Navy begins sonobuoy drop tests from P-8 Poseidon. U.S. Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) has begun sonobuoy drop tests from the Boeing P-8A Poseidon maritime multimission aircraft, it announced October 21. The tests, which began October 15, involved one of the three test aircraft at Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River, Maryland, dropping six sonobuoys in three low-altitude launches at the Atlantic Test Range. The P-8A employs a rotary launch system with three launchers, each with the capacity to hold 10 sonobuoys, and the ability to launch single and multiple shots. The system can accommodate sonobuoys of all sizes and the storage capacity is 50 percent greater than that of the incumbent Lockheed Martin P-3 Orion, according to NAVAIR. Initial operating capability on the P-8A is scheduled for 2013 at NAS Jacksonville, Florida. Source: http://www.janes.com/news/defence/jni/jni101025 1 n.shtml

U.S. Navy completes first test of new warhead for Tomahawk Block IV missile. The U.S. Navy completed the first live test of the Joint Multi-Effects Warhead System (JMEWS), meeting all performance objectives for the new warhead for the Tomahawk Block IV tactical cruise missile. The

JMEWS program is designed to deliver a warhead that will give the Tactical Tomahawk Land-Attack Missile all of the same blast-fragmentation capabilities that make it a formidable weapon today and to introduce enhanced penetration capabilities into a single warhead. During the August 16 test, the warhead detonated, creating a hole large enough for the follow-through element to completely penetrate the concrete target and pass through two witness plates. Source: http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/us-navy-completes-first-test-of-new-warhead-for-tomahawk-block-iv-missile-105636038.html

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(Wisconsin) 'Hams' test county's communications. The backup emergency communication skills of area amateur radio operators, often called "hams," were recently tested in St. Croix County, Wisconsin. Amateur Radio operators conducted their annual Simulated Emergency Test in cooperation with state and local officials. Using emergency powered radios and working with local agencies, the hams had only a few hours to create extensive radio communications networks which could be used should there be a failure or overload of normal services. In addition, the ham radio operators provide "interoperability" — they can pass information between the many government and volunteer agencies which are needed in disasters but often have incompatible communication systems. This year, the St. Croix County Amateur Radio operators participated in a drill that simulated a power outage across the entire northern half of Wisconsin. They worked with the St. Croix County Emergency Operations Center, New Richmond's Westfields Hospital, and the River Falls Area Hospital to simulate supplemental communications for systems that would potentially be affected by a power outage. Source: http://www.newrichmond-news.com/event/article/id/30801/

(Georgia) Safety device tampering caused deputy's car explosion. Authorities now say the reason a Jackson County, Georgia, deputy's car caught fire October 25 was because someone tampered with a safety device on the propane-powered cruiser. The car, being driven by a Jackson County deputy, burst into flames when he lit a cigarette as he responded to a call in Jefferson. The deputy escaped with only minor injures. A Jackson County Sheriff's Department major said they believe this was an isolated incident. He said the department will continue to use their propane-powered fleet. In a statement, the sheriff's department said there were two reasons the gas entered the vehicle: "First, there had been manual tampering with the propane gas system, specifically, the safety device that prevents the discharge of propane into the vehicle's interior was removed and disabled by an operator of the vehicle; and second, there had been improper manipulation of a fitting intended for use during maintenance procedures." All 62 propane-powered cruisers have been grounded until they have all been inspected for safety purposes. Authorities are still unsure of who tampered with the device, and whether or not that tampering was done unknowingly or on purpose. Source: http://www.accessnorthga.com/detail.php?n=233376

(Arizona) Biometrics now being shared by all counties in the state. On October 26, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) began using federal information sharing capability in all Arizona counties. The system uses biometrics to identify immigrants, both lawfully and unlawfully present in the United States who are booked into local law enforcement's custody for a crime. This information sharing capability is part of Secure Communities — ICE's comprehensive strategy to improve and modernize the identification and removal of criminal immigrants. Under the system, fingerprint information submitted through the state to the FBI will be automatically checked against both the FBI

criminal history records and the biometrics-based immigration records in DHS's Automated Biometric Identification System. If any fingerprints match those of someone in the DHS biometric system, the new automated process notifies ICE. ICE evaluates each case to determine the individual's immigration status and takes appropriate enforcement action. ICE is now using the system in 746 jurisdictions in 34 states. Source: http://www.syherald.com/content/news/2010/10/27/biometrics-now-being-shared-all-counties-state

(Kentucky) Missing gear forces Ky. rescue squad closure. After falling short of having equipment required by state law, the Williamsburg, Kentucky Rescue Squad is ending its operation. Some equipment the squad had is missing, and officials confirmed October 26 the Williamsburg Police Department is investigating the reported loss. The decision to dissolve the squad, a non-profit that typically derives most of its money from donations, was made following an inspection made about 1 month ago, according to the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management regional director. He said the routine inspection showed the squad did not have required equipment, and that some items that the department had received grant money to purchase were missing. A Whitley County official said the rescue squad's two primary responsibilities were aiding in ground searches and conducting water rescues throughout the county. Other fire departments have said they will assume those duties, he said. Source: http://www.firehouse.com/topic/rescue-and-special-ops/lack-equipment-forces-ky-rescue-squad-closure

(Ohio) Statewide camera network planned for first responders. Surveillance cameras operated by police, schools, and businesses already record people when they shop at malls, walk into schools or drive on busy roads. Ohio state safety officials hope within a year or two to link many of the cameras into a single network to help police, firefighters, and medics better respond to emergency calls. The executive director of the Ohio Homeland Security Division (OHSD) said the Camera Integration Project could be accessed by police via secure Internet connection anytime they receive an emergency call. The system would be set up with a \$235,000 Homeland Security grant. The system would be voluntary, with no city, school, or business required to link cameras to it. One of the members of the controlling board expressed concern about rogue authorities using the system to spy on others. The OHSD executive director said the cameras will not be continually monitored. Authorities will tap into the system during major incidents to gain an instant read on events, he noted, adding that the state developed a privacy policy for its security cameras in 2007. Source:

http://www.springfieldnewssun.com/news/springfield-news/statewide-camera-network-planned-for-first-responders-985664.html

ENERGY

Stuxnet-like attack could hit U.S. energy grid. The United States is bracing for an attack on its national energy grid computing systems involving Stuxnet-like malware, according to a senior director from the Department of Energy (DOE). The director of DOE's Transparency Initiative, told attendees at a conference organized by the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association that "it is going to happen." He said the department has already taken preventative steps, such as ensuring a high level of redundancy in the network and a defense-in-depth approach to cyber security. Stuxnet was branded "probably the most important malware in the last 10 years " by the F-Secure chief research officer at the event. The malicious code exploited four, zero-day vulnerabilities in its mission to disrupt industrial supervisory control and data acquisition systems, and is likely to have been

crafted by a state-backed group. However, the director warnedStuxnet is not the only threat facing critical national infrastructures such as the U.S. energy grid, and that the utility industry's move towards smart grids could pose new security threats globally. "We had a simple point-to-point system with a clearly defined set up of controls, but as [the system] gets smarter with localized intelligence, the risk will increase," he said. "With multi-layered interconnectivity you are opening the door to a broader set of vulnerabilities." Source: http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2272384/stuxnet-attack-hit-energy-grid

Benicia refinery going offline. Valero said October 26 that it will shut its Benicia, California refinery for 5 weeks early next year for plantwide maintenance, raising the specter of higher gasoline prices if other plants suffer surprise hiccups at the same time. The planned 36-day shutdown marks the first time since October 2004 that the facility has been completely idleds, said a spokesman for Texasbased Valero Energy Corp. The refinery will shut in January 2011 for the maintenance, known as a turnaround, Valero officials said. Gasoline prices should not rise because of the Benicia refinery shutdown — so long as other oil plants that supply the West Coast operate as expected. All told, Valero, the nation's largest refiner, said it plans maintenance projects at five refineries during the first 3 months of 2011. Besides the 170,000-barrel-a-day Benicia refinery, the other plants affected are a 90,000-barrel-a-day refinery in Oklahoma that will close completely for 40 days starting in March 2011; a catalytic cracker at a 250,000-barrel-a-day Louisiana refinery for 55 days starting in March 2011; a crude unit and a coker unit at a 310,000-barrel-a-day refinery in Texas that will begin in January 2011and last for 55 days; and a hydrocracker unit at a different refinery in Texas that will begin in March 2011 and extend 24 days. Source: http://www.tradingmarkets.com/news/stock-alert/vlo_benicia-refinery-going-offline-1260518.html

(California) PG&E says it may need 300 speedier shutoff valves. Criticized for its long delay in manually shutting off gas to the ruptured pipeline in San Bruno, California, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) said October 25 it has identified about 300 manual gas valves that may need to be replaced with speedier automatic or remotely controlled shut-off technology, at a potential cost of up to \$450 million. Also, while the utility said it found no immediate safety issues in a check of 16 miles of pipe in and around San Bruno after the blast that killed eight people and destroyed 35 homes, the company did find 38 leaks throughout its extensive network. Four of the leaks — one in Hollister, two in Napa, and another in Gridley — were in large transmission lines, similar to the one that erupted in San Bruno. Two of the four were in PG&E facilities. The others were in smaller pipes, many feeding gas to individual customers. The company, which expects to complete checking its entire gas system by December 15, said all of the leaks have been fixed. In its disclosures October 25, the company said the cost of replacing a manual valve with one that automatically closes after a drop in pressure from a pipe rupture or that can be remotely controlled by a human operator varies from \$100,000 to \$1.5 million, depending on such factors as how accessible the valve is for retrofitting. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/peninsula/ci 16432866

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Two different sets of pork products recalled for Listeria. Two corporations are recalling pork products due to listeria concerns. To this point, neither recall has been linked to reported illnesses. Valley Farm Meats, also known as Strasburg Provision, of Wooster, Ohio is recalling 3,600 pounds of (primarily) pork products. Autentico Foods of California is recalling 54,000 pounds of pork. The

recalled Valley Farm products may bear the Ohio Department of Agriculture inspection mark and the Establishment mark, "Est. 80." The products were produced this year between June 1 and October 4. The Autentico Foods recall second recall was announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). The recalled pork products bear an establishment mark "Est. 3810." The products were sent to retailers in California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Nevada, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah. Source:

http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/2010/10/articles/food-poisoning-watch/two-different-sets-of-pork-products-recalled-for-listeria/

(California; Nevada; Washington) Dried seafood from Vietnam recalled due to Botulism risk. Concerned about the potential for botulism, a voluntary recall of seafood products from Vietnam was issued October 27 by Foremost Foods International of Pomona, California. The recall affects some Tomi brand dried seafood products, including dried baby squid and dried shrimp fry. The products were distributed in California, Nevada, and Washington state through Seafood City and Manila Seafood retail stores. The recall involves products sold between September 23, 2009 and October 20,

2010. Source: http://seafood.einnews.com/article.php?nid=373

Tea recalled for possible Salmonella contamination. Good Earth Tea announced October 26 a voluntary recall of a limited amount of its Caffeine Free Original blend due to the possible presence of Salmonella. Good Earth said the recall was based on routine microbial testing in which a minor ingredient had a positive result for Salmonella. The recall is isolated to two retailers and to Caffeine Free Original blend only. The affected blend was distribute to a limited number of Costco retail locations in California, and Trader Joe's retail locations in California, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, and Pennsylvania, the company said. Source: http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/10/tea-recalled/

(Georgia) Disease threatens Georgia blueberry crop. Blueberries passed peaches as the Georgia's top moneymaking fruit a few years ago, worth more than \$100 million on the farm annually. But new diseases threaten the popular berry, said a University of Georgia (UGA) fruit specialist. Blueberry necrotic ring blotch disorder and bacterial leaf scorch, are new to Georgia's blueberry crop, a UGA plant pathologist said. "We are seeing two new diseases causing concern for growers with southern highbush blueberry varieties," he said. "Traditional, native varieties seem to be resistant to both diseases." Blueberry necrotic ring blotch disorder causes the plant to lose its leaves, defoliating long before berries are ready to be harvested. Some plants with the disease defoliate twice a season. So far, individual plants are not dying, but yields have been cut. The disease first appeared in Georgia in 2006. It has now been found in North Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, and South Carolina. Bacterial leaf scorch, caused by the bacterium Xyella fastidiosa, causes what looks like burns on the blueberry leaves. The scorching occurs when the bacteria invades the xylem of the plant, preventing the plant from transferring nutrients and water. Source:

http://www.southernfarmer.com/story.aspx/disease/threatens/georgia/blueberry/crop/9/43233

(New Jersey) EEE: New Jersey reports first case. A 2-year-old mare from Monmouth County, New Jersey, was euthanized in October after contracting Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). This is the first 2010 case of EEE to be reported in the state. The mare was not vaccinated against EEE, which causes inflammation of the brain tissue and has a significantly higher risk of death in horses than infection from West Nile virus (WNV), a viral disease that affects the central nervous system. Both viral

diseases are spread by infected mosquitoes. While the EEE case is the first of 2010 in New Jersey, two horses — a 2-year-old mare from Atlantic County and a 22-year-old gelding from Gloucester County — were euthanized this year after contracting WNV. Neither had been vaccinated against the virus. Source: http://www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=17145

(Washington) Estrella Family Creamery shut down by FDA after bacteria found. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) forced one of Washington's most well-known artisan cheesemakers to shut down, saying the product could be contaminated with bacteria that can cause serious illness. The FDA took the action October 22, after asking Estrella Family Creamery to initiate a recall. Estrella declined. The raw-milk cheeses, made in Montesano, Grays Harbor County, are sold at farmers markets, high-end restaurants, and retail stores in many states. No illnesses have been linked with the cheeses, the state department of health said. A February inspection by the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) turned up Listeria monocytogenes in production areas, and in finished cheese, according to court records. WSDA found the bacteria in March, as well. The company said the problem was that the FDA demanded recall of all of its cheese, not just that in the troublesome cave. The FDA showed up with court papers the week of October 18 and seized all of the cheese. Source: http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/localnews/2013257593 cheese26m.html

NOAA reopens 7,000 more square miles for fishing in the Gulf. The federal government has reopened an additional 7,000 square miles of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico to commercial and recreational fishing. That means 96 percent of all federal waters are now open, after a series of closures this summer as oil gushed into the Gulf following the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced the reopening of waters 60 miles east of the Macondo well site, off the coast of Florida between the Florida-Alabama state line and Cape San Blas, Florida. October 22 marks the tenth reopening of fishing areas in the Gulf since July 22. The decision came after NOAA and the federal Food and Drug Administration sampled numerous finfish in the area, and conducted smell tests and a chemical analysis for oil. Source: http://www.nola.com/news/gulf-oil-spill/index.ssf/2010/10/noaa_reopens_7000_more_square.html

(Wisconsin) 2,740 pounds of beef stick product is being recalled because they may contain plastic or glass. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced October 23 that Klement Sausage Company, Inc. from Milwaukee, Wisconsin is recalling about 2,740 pounds of beef stick product. The 8-ounce packages of "Market Pantry Beef Sticks, Original" may contain plastic or glass pieces. The packages have a "Use By" date of March 1, 2012 and have the establishment number "2426B" inside the USDA mark of inspection and indicate "Refrigerate After Opening" on the label. The 10 pound shipping cartons are coded with the number "03293." The beef sticks were produced this year August 31 and packaged September 1. They were shipped to distribution centers and retail stores nationwide. The FSIS said the glass pieces were found after a retail chain reported that they had complaints from consumers about hard plastic or glass in the product. The FSIS has not received any complaints or reports of injury. Source: http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/2,740-pounds-of-beef-stick-product-is-being-recalled-because-they-may-contain-plastic-or-glass

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(Virginia) Shots fired at Marine Corps museum in suburban Washington. Several shots were fired at the National Museum of the Marine Corps building in Triangle, Virginia, the FBI said October 29. No injuries were reported. It is the second time the Marine Corps museum has been fired upon in recent days. In addition, the Pentagon and a vacant Marine Corps Recruiting Station in Virginia also were shot at recently. All the previous shots came from the same weapon, authorities said. The latest incident occurred October 28, a spokeswoman at the National Museum of the Marine Corps said, noting no one was in the building at the time. Bullet holes were found in the glass and metal structure of the building but not inside, she said. The museum was closed early October 29 while the investigation continued, the spokeswoman said, adding it would remain closed the rest of the day. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/10/29/marine.museum.shooting/index.html?hpt=T2

(Kentucky) 37 people treated after prank on Lincoln County school bus. Thirty students from Lincoln County schools and a school bus driver were taken to a Kentucky hospital October 27, after the driver found that two high school boys were mixing rubbing alcohol and a bag of swimming-pool chemicals on the bus. The boys, ages 14 and 16, were charged with wanton endangerment and possession of an explosive device and sent to the Adair County Juvenile Detention Center, the Lincoln County sheriff said. In addition to the 30 students, doctors treated two bus drivers, four parents and a nurse from the hospital who first came into contact with the students. Source:

http://www.kentucky.com/2010/10/28/1497341/fumes-send-school-bus-driver-students.html

(Virginia) FBI: Same gun used in Pentagon, museum shooting. The same gun was used to shoot at the Pentagon and the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Northern Virginia earlier this month, the FBI said October 26. A third military office — a Marine Corps recruiting station in Chantilly, Virginia, outside Washington — was shot at overnight October 25; Marines who work there discovered the shooting the morning of October 26, the FBI said. Investigators are conducting ballistics tests to determine whether the recruiting station shooting is related to the previous incidents. No one was injured in any of the shootings. Investigators have not determined a motive or identified a suspect, said a spokeswoman for the FBI's Washington field office. Though all three shootings have targeted offices with links to the military, the FBI has not issued any specific advisories or warnings to recruiting stations or other military buildings. Source: http://www.wftv.com/politics/25523292/detail.html

(Wyoming) Pentagon: Equipment outage at Wyo. nuke site. An equipment failure disrupted communication between 50 nuclear missiles and the launch control center at Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming October 23, an Air Force spokesman said October 26. A lieutenant colonel said the break lasted less than one hour. The White House was briefed about the failure early October 26. There was no evidence of foul play, and the Air Force never lost the ability to launch the missiles, officials said. The Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles are part of the 319th Missile Squadron stockpiled at Warren Air Force Base near Cheyenne, where 150 ICBMs are located. The failure affected 50 of them, or one-ninth of the U.S. arsenal. ICBMs at Air Force bases in Montana and North Dakota were

not affected. Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iYply8EkJNvujUQJ3NBKg8MLRwww?docld=1 966c635a77b4ac2ae8f6e23cfa8fe3e

(California) Suspicious device prompts school evacuation in San Ramon. A suspicious object left inside a California High School bathroom in San Ramon, California, October 25 turned out to not be an explosive device, police said. The object, which investigators said was intentionally made to resemble a bomb, was discovered in a bathroom at the high school's main building shortly before 3 p.m., a San Ramon police sergeant said. Police evacuated the school, sent students home and requested assistance from the Walnut Creek police bomb squad. A robot was sent in to inspect the device. At 5:15 p.m., the object was determined to not be an explosive, and employees at the school were allowed to come back inside. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci 16431916

(Massachusetts) **Swampscott High forced to evacuate.** Swampscott High School students in Swampscott, Massachusetts headed back to school after an evacuation October 25. At a little before noon, Swampscott police and fire, emergency personnel and state police bomb squad members were sent to the high school for a report of a suspicious package. The package was a backpack that was left in the middle of a hallway. After the bomb squad inspected the backpack, it was determined that only a battery was inside. The students and staff were evacuated to Upper Jackson Park during the ordeal. Source: http://www.thedailyitemoflynn.com/articles/2010/10/26/news/news09.txt

(West Virginia) School bus evacuated after bomb threat, police say. A Raleigh County, West Virginia school bus was evacuated after a bomb threat October 21, authorities said. About 20 students on Bus 146 from Woodrow Wilson High School and Beckley-Stratton Middle School were escorted onto another bus after the bus driver was handed a note found by one of the students. The note claimed a bomb would blow up at 3:15 p.m. The bus was at Clyde Street and Powerline Drive when officers received the call. No explosives were found on the bus and officials are still investigating the threat. Source: http://www.register-herald.com/local/x356199292/School-bus-evacuated-after-bomb-threat-police-say

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

MS Windows can still be hacked via DLL. According to a security advisory by ACROS Security, Microsoft's OS Windois still vulnerable to DLL hacking. When loading a fake DLL file, hackers can use theuser's access to post codes. The only application to prevent hackers from hiding malicious DLL files is SetDllDirectory. However, this application does not guarantee 100 percent security, as it works erratically on most of the currently used Windows versions. Source: http://www.shortnews.com/start.cfm?id=86041

Most smartphone users breach employers' security, says survey. More than half of mobile device users access their employer's networks every day without permission, a survey has found. More than 80 percent of users of mobile devices, whose security is not controlled by a company, said they have accessed work information. Network systems company Juniper Networks surveyed 6,000 mobile device users and found that the use of smartphones and tablet computers poses a potentially major security risk to corporate information. Consumer-focused devices are often far more poorly protected than laptops or secure email devices that have been designed and configured by a

company's own IT department. The survey found that, despite citing information security as a major concern, device owners are using the machines to bypass corporate data protection measures. "Almost 44 percent of respondents use their devices for both personal and business purposes," said a Juniper statement. "Eighty-one percent admit using their devices to access their employer's network without their employer's knowledge or permission and 58 percent do so every single day." Those users are not unaware of the dangers of using sophisticated mobile devices; 64 percent of them are very or extremely concerned about the possibility of identity theft when a device is stolen or lost, according to the survey. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/10/28/most smartphone users breach employer security/

Bredolab-infected PCs downloading fake antivirus software. A massive takedown operation conducted by Dutch police and security experts the week of October 25 does not appear to have completely dissolved the Bredolab botnet, but it is unlikely to recover. The latest look at the botnet by FireEye's Malware Intelligence Lab showed two domains are being used to issue instructions to infected computers. PCs infected with Bredolab are programmed to check in with certain domains to receive new commands. One domain, which is on an IP (Internet Protocol) address registered with a collocation facility in Kazakhstan, is telling infected computers to download a fake antivirus program called Antivirusplus. If infected, users are badgered to buy the programs, which offer little or no actual protection from threats. The other domain is instructing computers to send spam. That domain is hosted on an IP address assigned to a collocation facility in Russia. The infected computers that are communicating with domains appear to have a variant of Bredolab installed. Malware authors frequently have to modify the code in order to avoid detection by antivirus software. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9193618/Bredolab infected PCs downloading fake antivirus software

Boonana Trojan for Mac OS X spreads via social media. SecureMac has discovered a new Trojan in the wild that affects Mac OS X, including Snow Leopard (OS X 10.6). The Trojan.osx.boonana.a, is spreading through social networking sites, including Facebook, disguised as a video. It is currently appearing as a link in messages with the subject "Is this you in this video?" When a user clicks the infected link, the Trojan initially runs as a Java applet, which downloads other files to the computer, including an installer, which launches automatically. When run, the installer modifies system files to bypass the need for passwords, allowing outside access to all files on the system. Additionally, the Trojan sets itself to run invisibly in the background at startup, and periodically checks in with command and control servers to report information on the infected system. While running, the Trojan hijacks user accounts to spread itself further via spam messages. Users have reported the Trojan is spreading through e-mail as well as social media sites. Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1509

Workers abusing social sites on corporate networks. More than 70 percent of the traffic on corporate networks today comes from the Internet, and a sizable portion of it stems from employees' use of Gmail, Hotmail, Facebook, and BitTorrent for personal reasons. That finding comes from a study released by next-generation firewall vendor Palo Alto Networks, based on firewall data captured in 723 organizations worldwide: 275 in North America, 207 in the Asia-Pacific region, and 241 in Europe. To provide more precise details, Palo Alto divided the personal applications it found into three categories: socializing, saying (e-mail and IM), and sharing. Altogether, these applications account for about 25 percent of the traffic seen on corporate networks. In terms of socializing, the

most popular networking platforms were Facebook (95 percent), Twitter (93 percent), LinkedIn (85 percent), MySpace (79 percent), and Facebook applications (76 percent). While all social networking platforms have risks, Palo Alto said the prevalence of Facebook applications was cause for concern. "The more that enterprises download Facebook applications, the more likely they are to be attacked," said the director of EMEA marketing for Palo Alto. Relatively speaking, Facebook and its applications are bandwidth hogs, consuming 500 percent more bandwidth than the other 47 social networking applications seen combined, without even factoring in Facebook mail and chat traffic. Source:

http://www.informationweek.com/news/security/client/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227900728

Botnet-harbouring ISPs named and shamed. The United States, Germany, and France rank as the top three countries for hosting botnet command and control servers. Countries such as China and Russia that tend to be most associated with hacking, spamming, and cybercrime rank far below Western countries in a list compiled by net security firm Damballa. For the first half of 2010, almost a quarter of botnet CnC servers were hosted by service providers in the United States, with the top three countries (United States — 23.9 percent, Germany — 17.9 percent and France — 8.6 percent) hosting more than half of all CnC servers. "Half of the servers used by cyber-criminals for the purpose of controlling their botnet empires are located in commercial hosting facilities within countries not traditionally associated with this kind of crime," writes the vice president of research at Damballa. "The ability to host a server is typically independent of where the criminals are actually located and the type of victims they are trying to capture. ISPs and hosting providers listed in the top 10 do not necessarily conduct criminal practices, but they have found themselves in a position of being 'preferred' by the criminals operating the botnets," he said. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/10/26/botnet hosting isps/

Google to tighten privacy policies after Wi-Fi fiasco. Under fire for months over its capture of people's Wi-Fi traffic data, Google October 22 announced several steps aimed at preventing similar missteps in the future. At the same time, Google recognized its inadvertent Wi-Fi snooping collected not only data fragments, but also entire e-mail messages, Web site addresses, and passwords. Government agencies and legislators in the United States and abroad are investigating, and a number of users have filed privacy-breach lawsuits. Google had intended the Street View cars to only grab and store open Wi-Fi networks' names (SSIDs) and their unique router numbers (MAC addresses) for use in Google location-based services. Due to a software glitch, the Google cars intercepted and stored Web traffic data, which initially the company had said was highly fragmented, but that it now is admitting includes the full text of e-mail messages and passwords. The steps Google announced include appointment of a new privacy director overseeing engineering and product management. Google will beef up her staff, so that more engineers and product managers are involved in privacy-protection efforts. Google also plans to boost privacy-related training and compliance, ad will implement a provision that all engineering project leaders maintain a privacy design document for each project. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9192639/Google to tighten privacy policies after Wi Fi fiasco

Zeus hackers may target corporate data. Criminals who use Zeus malware may be working on a new angle: corporate espionage. Zeus typically steals online banking credentials. But a computer security researcher at the University of Alabama said that the criminal groups that use Zeus have started

trying to find out where their victims are employed. Sometimes the malware will pop up a fake online bank log-in screen that asks the victim for the name of his employer. He said that in online forums, hackers recently speculated that they might be able to sell access to computers associated with certain companies or government agencies. "They want to know where you work," he said. "Your computer may be worth exploring more deeply because it may provide a gateway to the organization." Zeus could be a powerful tool for stealing corporate secrets, because it lets the criminals remotely control victims' computers, scan files, and capture passwords and keystrokes. With Zeus, hackers could tunnel through the victim's computer to break into corporate systems. The researcher said the biggest threat is that Zeus could infect employees' home PCs and laptops that are outside the corporate firewall, but have access to company data. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/352327/Zeus Hackers May Harvest Business Info

Iranian Cyber Army running botnets, researchers say. A group of malicious hackers who attacked Twitter and the Chinese search engine Baidu are also apparently running a for-rent botnet, according to new research. The so-called Iranian Cyber Army also took credit last month for an attack on TechCrunch's European Web site. In that incident, the group installed a page on TechCrunch's site that redirected visitors to a server that bombarded their PCs with exploits in an attempt to install malicious software. Researchers with a security startup called Seculert have traced the malicious server behind those attacks and found evidence the Iranian Cyber Army may be running a botnet. They found an administration interface where people who want to rent the botnet can describe the machines they would like to infect and upload their own malware for distribution, the CTO and cofounder of Seculert said. The company runs a cloud-based service that alerts customers to new malware, exploits and other cyber threats. There are many computer crime gangs that create botnets, or networks of compromised computers, that can then be rented to other players in the cybercrime industry, such as spammers. The CTO said Seculert was able to see the administration panel as it was left unprotected. His company has since notified the provider where the page is hosted and contacted law enforcement. The statistics page showed that as many as 14,000 PCs were being infected per hour. Since the server has been active since August 2010, Seculert estimates it may have successfully infected as many as 20 million PCs. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9192800/Iranian Cyber Army running botnets research ers say

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

(Arizona) 2 agencies crack down on smugglers. For the past7 weeks, U.S. Border Patrol agents and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) rangers quietly carried out an anti-smuggling campaign in two national monuments in Arizona that had become infested with drug runners and illegal immigrants. In an interview October 25, directors of the two agencies said they have added manpower, erected barriers, and torn down smuggler-lookout posts in an effort to secure the notorious Vekol Valley near Casa Grande. The Arizona director for the BLM and the chief of the Border Patrol's Tucson Sector said the two agencies established unprecedented cooperation in an effort to combat border-related crime in the Sonoran Desert National Monument south of Interstate 8 and the Ironwood Forest National Monument west of Tucson. They said the campaign was prompted by a series of violent events near Casa Grande during the past year. In one incident, a deputy was wounded in a shootout with smugglers; in another, two Mexican nationals were killed by suspected bandits. Source: http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2010/10/25/20101025blm1026.html

(Wyoming) Quake triggers small landslide in Wyoming. A 4.4-magnitude earthquake appeared to trigger a small landslide in Wyoming's Bridger-Teton National Forest October 23, an emergency management official said. No injuries were reported and the quarter-mile-wide slide stopped short of the road, leaving only a trail at Ditch Creek affected, the emergency management coordinator for Teton County told CNN. The earthquake struck at 11:43 a.m. about 20 miles east-northeast of Jackson at a depth of 3.1 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. A National Park Service representative told CNN that the region has been rattled by other small earthquakes over the past few months. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/10/24/wyoming.landslide/

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

(Alabama) Alabama man charged with mailing hoax Anthrax letters. A federal grand jury today indicted a Madison County, Alabama man for mailing hoax anthrax letters in September 2010 to political offices in Homewood, Alabama and Washington, D.C., and to an insurance office in Nebraska, the U.S. district attorney and U.S. Postal Inspector announced October 28. In a three-count indictment filed in United States District Court, the grand jury charges the 71 year-old suspect with mailing letters containing a powdery substance to the Alabama Republican Party office in Homewood, the Center for Responsive Politics in Washington, D.C., and the Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company in Omaha, Nebraska. Each envelope included a typewritten note referring to the mailing as a "Koran Puffie," according to court records. Testing of the substance found in all three letters was negative for the presence of anthrax or any other biological hazard. Source: http://7thspace.com/headlines/361860/alabama man charged with mailing hoax anthrax letters http://7thspace.com/headlines/361860/alabama man charged with mailing hoax anthrax letters https://thspace.com/headlines/361860/alabama man charged with mailing hoax anthrax letters https://thspace.com/headlines/361860/alabama man charged with mailing hoax anthrax letters

U.S. alert focuses on cargo after suspicious packages found overseas. Suspicious packages found in at least two locations abroad that were on planes bound for the United States "apparently contain explosive material," the U.S. President said late in the afternoon October 29, calling the discovery "a credible threat against our country." The packages led to increased searches of cargo planes and trucks in several U.S. cities, said law enforcement sources with detailed knowledge of the investigation. U.S. officials believe that al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, commonly referred to as AQAP, is behind the incident. The President confirmed that the packages originated in Yemen — the stronghold of al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula."We also know that al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula continues to plan attacks against our homeland, our citizens, and our friends and allies," he said during a press briefing on the incident. One suspicious package found in the United Kingdom contained a "manipulated" toner cartridge and had white powder on it as well as wires and a circuit board, a law enforcement source said. A similar package was discovered in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, the source said. Both packages were bound for the United States, "specifically two places of Jewish worship in Chicago," the President said. Authorities were looking for about 13 other packages shipped from Yemen, a law enforcement source said. The plot could be a dry run to test Western security, another U.S. official told CNN. The furor led to heightened inspection of arriving cargo flights in Newark, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a UPS truck in New York. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/10/29/security.concern/index.html?hpt=T1&iref=BN1

(California) Suspicious package near Social Security office in San Mateo prompts evacuation. A bag that prompted the evacuation October 27 of a building in San Mateo, California that contains a Social

Security Administration office turned out to be harmless, police said. Officers went to the building at 800 S. Claremont St. around 10:30 a.m. after receiving a report of a suspicious package, a San Mateo police sergeant said. As police headed to the address, the people inside the building were evacuated. Officers later determined that the package was not dangerous and had been accidentally left there by a person visiting the building. As part of the investigation, police figured out what was in the bag and to whom it belongs. A short time later, everyone was given the OK to go back inside the building. Source: http://www.insidebayarea.com/news/ci 16451261

(District of Columbia) NPR gets bomb threat amid controversy. NPR received a bomb threat October 25, 5 days after its decision to fire a news analyst sparked a hugely negative reaction. Sources at the news organization said the threat was received via U.S. mail and was immediately turned over to local police and the FBI. NPR did not publicly disclose the threat or release details, on the advice of law enforcement officials. The letter did not reference the news analyst firing specifically, but people at NPR, who spoke about it on the condition of anonymity, said the timing and tone suggested it was sent after the news analyst's widely publicized termination. The news analyst was dismissed as an NPR analyst October 27 after he appeared on Fox News Channel's "O'Reilly Factor" and expressed his personal anxiety about flying on planes with people in "Muslim garb." Later in the same interview, however, he spoke out against profiling people on racial or religious grounds. Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/10/27/politics/washingtonpost/main6996286.shtml

(Rhode Island) Suspicious package destroyed near site of scheduled Obama speech. A bomb squad destroyed an unattended package October 25 near the location of a scheduled appearance by the U.S. President in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, state police said. No evidence has been found to suggest the package contained harmful materials, and no link has been established between it and the President's visit, except by proximity, the Rhode Island State Police captain said. Police closed down the road near where the package was found, and White House reporters heard a pop 5 minutes later. The package was described as a cardboard box that was 1 cubic foot sitting under a mailbox. The police official said he did not know whether additional measures were under way at the facility where the President was slated to speak later October 25. Source:

http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/10/25/rhode.island.suspicious.package/

PUBLIC HEALTH

GlaxoSmithKline settles bad drug case for \$750M. British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline PLC will pay \$750 million to settle allegations it knowingly manufactured and sold adulterated drugs, including the popular antidepressant Paxil, federal prosecutors in Massachusetts said October 26. A U.S. Attorney announced that the London-based company will pay \$150 million in criminal fines and \$600 million in civil penalties related to faulty manufacturing processes at its plant in Cidra, Puerto Rico. The company allowed several drugs to be adulterated between 2001 and 2005, including Paxil CR, a skin-infection ointment called Bactroban, an anti-nausea drug called Kytril, and a diabetes drug called Avandamet, the attorney said. The \$600 million civil penalty will be paid to the federal government and the states to cover false claims submitted to the Medicaid program and other health care programs. Source:

http://www.boston.com/business/healthcare/articles/2010/10/26/glaxosmithkline to pay 750 mill ion in pill case/

Flame retardants said hazardous to health. Flame retardant chemicals found in home furniture, electronics, insulation, mattresses, and other products are hazardous, U.S. environmentalists said. Brominated and chlorinated flame retardants can cause serious health harm while providing only limited fire safety benefits, according to an October 28 release from Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, a coalition of 250 environmental health groups. The coalition is urging an overhaul of the 1976 Toxic Substances Control Act, the current federal law regulating chemicals. During the last Congressional session, two proposals were presented to overhaul the law, but neither reached a vote. New bills are expected to be introduced in the next session. Source: http://www.upi.com/Science News/2010/10/28/Flame-retardants-said-hazardous-to-health/UPI-99511288308859/

HHS announces the availability of up to \$335 million to boost access to primary health care. The Secretary of the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) announced October 26 the availability of up to \$335 million for existing community health centers across the country under the Expanded Services (ES) initiative. These funds are made possible by the Affordable Care Act and will increase access to preventive and primary health care at existing health center sites. The legislation provides \$11 billion in funding over the next 5 years for the operation, expansion, and construction of health centers throughout the nation. Of the \$11 billion, \$9.5 billion is targeted to creating new health center sites in medically underserved areas, and expanding preventive and primary health care services at existing health center sites. An additional \$1.5 billion will support major construction and renovation projects at health centers nationwide. This expansion of sites and services will help community health centers serve nearly double the number of patients they do today. Source: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/10/20101026a.html

Belladonna triggers recall of teething remedy. Tablets sold as a homeopathic remedy for teething pain in babies have been recalled following reports of "serious adverse events" including seizure, difficulty breathing, and muscle weakness. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said October 23 that the reports it received are "consistent with belladonna toxicity." The agency has also received reports of children consuming more than the recommended dose, "because the containers do not have child resistant caps." The tablets, marketed as Hyland's Teething Tablets by Standard Homeopathic Company, are manufactured to contain a small amount of belladonna, but FDA analysis revealed that the tablets "contain inconsistent amounts" of the ingredient. The over-the-counter tablets have not been evaluated by the FDA for either safety or efficacy, and the FDA said it was "not aware of any proven clinical benefit offered by the product." Moreover, the agency said, its "ongoing inspection at the manufacturer also indicates substandard control of the manufacturing operation." Source: http://www.medpagetoday.com/Pediatrics/GeneralPediatrics/22959

TRANSPORTATION

Cargo planes checked for suspicious packages. Federal investigators swept cargo planes at two United States airports October 29, searching for suspicious packages, after a potentially explosive device was found October 28 at an airport near Birmingham, England, originating in Yemen and bound for Chicago. Officials isolated UPS cargo planes that landed at Philadelphia and Newark airports on Friday morning because they were carrying packages that appeared to have the same origin as the suspicious device in Britain. A UPS truck in Brooklyn was also stopped and checked on Friday. But in each case, the packages that reached the United States have been found to be

nonthreatening. At East Midlands Airport in Britain, where UPS has a cargo sorting facility, the attention of security officials was attracted to a suspicious package that had come from Yemen. They found in it a toner cartridge that appeared to have been tampered with in a way that made it resemble an improvised bomb, though tests for the presence of explosives were negative, a law enforcement official said. Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/30/us/30plane.html?hp

(District of Columbia; Maryland; Virginia) Suspect in Metro plot aspired to kill troops abroad, FBI says. The man charged in an alleged plot to blow up Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) rail stations in Northern Virginia suggested ways to kill as many people as possible on the subway, wanted to battle U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and trained himself to fight, authorities alleged October 27. The Ashburn, Virginia man never suggested any attacks inside the United States, and the plot to attack Metro was hatched by government operatives posing as terrorists, according to court records unsealed October 28. The man told undercover FBI operatives who he thought were al-Qaeda terrorists that he was ready to martyr himself in battle, according to government documents. Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/28/AR2010102807326.html

European officials broadly criticize U.S. airport security methods. Several European officials questioned American requirements for airport security October 27, a day after the chairman of British Airways criticized Britain for bowing too quickly to Washington's demands. The chairman said at a conference that Britain should not "kowtow to the Americans every time they wanted something done" with aviation security procedures. Especially irritating was the requirement that passengers take off their shoes and remove their laptops from their luggage during security checks. The practice should be abandoned, he said. He also criticized Washington for not imposing certain safety restrictions on domestic flights that it requires for international flights to and from the United States. Executives from other carriers and airports echoed the criticisms from British Airways. Some airlines have repeatedly called for more sophisticated scanning machines to replace procedural safety measures like requiring passengers to pack liquids separately. Virgin Atlantic said that it had pleaded "for many years" for new security procedures that would be "effective but quicker and less intrusive." Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/28/business/global/28air.html?partner=rss&emc=rss

(Utah) Bomb threat scrambles cops, FBI to SL International Aiport. A Skywest-Delta commuter jet made an emergency landing October 28 at Salt Lake International Airport in Salt Lake City, Utah in response to a bomb threat. An airport spokeswoman said that Flight 4654 was immediately cleared of its 46 passengers and three-member crew upon landing about 7:55 a.m. "Airport police, fire and FBI personnel moved in to sweep the aircraft, which was parked and secured on the north end of the airfield," she said. No injuries were reported, and authorities did not immediately report finding any suspicious packages aboard the twin-engine CRJ-200 aircraft. A Skywest spokeswoman said the threat, which claimed there was an incendiary device aboard the aircraft, came in to the airline's St. George operations center. Source: http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/50559389-76/threat-fbi-gann-aircraft.html.csp

(Pennsylvania) FAA calls for study as bird strikes soar at HIA. A dramatic increase in bird-plane collisions at Harrisburg International Airport in Harrisburg, Pennsyvlania has drawn the attention of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The airport's executive director said there have been more than 70 bird strikes — mainly swallows — at HIA in 2010. That is off the charts compared to previous

years. There were 24 bird strikes in 2009 and 19 in 2008. It appears that an increase in insects is drawing more swallows to the airport looking to feed, HIA officials said. The FAA requires that airports do a wildlife hazard study if certain conditions are met, among them bird strikes. On October 27, airport owner Susquehanna Area Regional Airport Authority awarded a \$96,545 contract to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to do the study. The airport tries to scare the swallows away by using noisemakers and pyrotechnics. The airport sprays to reduce the insect population and lets the grass grow a little higher so it's more difficult for swallows to spot their prey. Source: http://www.pennlive.com/news/patriotnews/index.ssf?/base/news/128822190883620.xml&coll=1

(Massachusetts) 'Tag your own' luggage plans. Logan International Airport in Boston, Massachusetts will lead the nation in testing a "tag your own bag" program designed to speed passenger check-ins. Air Canada and American Airlines are expected to launch the pilot program — tailored to satisfy U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) concerns — next month. Passengers will be able to use a kiosk to print their own baggage routing tags along with boarding passes. Unlike in other countries, passengers still will be required to check in with a ticket-counter agent instead of simply dropping off their bags at a designated location. Air Canada and the TSA declined comment on how the program was altered to meet TSA security requirements, saying details are still being finalized. But a source said passengers will have to get their IDs checked by a ticket-counter agent who will "activate" the baggage tags and place their luggage on conveyor belts. Source:

http://news.bostonherald.com/business/general/view/20101027tag your own luggage plans loga n to launch pilot/srvc=home&position=also

(California) Bay Bridge tower work prompts Caltrans warning. Drivers crossing the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge in California are urged to focus on the road the week of October 25 as crews begin to lift the second set of towers into place. The California Department of Transportation fears this week's highly visible work on the \$1.6 billion self-anchored suspension span could distract drivers. The work involves hoisting sections of the span's 525-foot-tall tower 300 feet in the air. Westbound drivers will be able to see the work as they approach an S-curve at the bridge — the same curve where a speeding driver crashed in September 2009 and plunged 200 feet to his death. The work will also be visible to eastbound drivers in the far left lane of the bridge. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci 16428336?nclick check=1

WATER AND DAMS

Water supplies in danger of drug contamination. A U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) study released October 27 presents fresh evidence pharmaceutical companies are contaminating the world's water supply. The study measured contaminants more than 1000 times normal wastewater levels downstream from pharmaceutical factories. Published in the journal Environmental Science & Technology, the study confirms growing suspicion that drug companies are dumping pain killers and other products into the water supply with little regard for potential health hazards. Associated Press research estimates that at least 46 million people in the United States are regularly exposed to tap water contaminated by pharmaceuticals. More than 100 different drugs have been detected across North America, Europe, and Asia. The USGS team collected effluent samples leaving 26 wastewater treatment plants across the United States. The industry has insisted that it applies strict controls to protect its products from entering the water supply. Health authorities fear that the mix of compounds in the water supply, ingested by people year after year, can have cumulative adverse

effects, building up toxins in humans and other animals. Many drugs are not regulated as water pollutants, and as such, no "safe" exposure limits have ever been set. Source: http://www.24-7pressrelease.com/press-release/water-supplies-in-danger-of-drug-contamination-178049.php

(Kansas) **Copper theft in Topeka.** A water pumping station in Topeka, Kansas, was stripped of all its copper. The damages to the building could cost the city \$200,000 to \$300,000. The water pumping station is insured, but a city spokesman said the damage may or may not be covered. If needed, the money to repair the damages will come from the stormwater utility fund or utility fees that come from taxpayers. Source: http://www.ksnt.com/news/local/story/Copper-Theft-in-Topeka/PxzDHkmd6Ues2wy1ppjkHQ.cspx

EPA urges tougher inspections of emergency water supplies. It took years for Illinois officials to discover suburban Crestwood was pumping contaminated water to its residents, in part because the state took village officials at their word that nothing was wrong. Such lax oversight is a problem in scores of communities throughout the nation, according to a new report from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) inspector general that urged federal and state officials to conduct more rigorous inspections, and adopt tighter reporting guidelines. The report also found there is no way to determine if emergency water supplies that serve more than 58 million people are contaminated or being misused. Oversight is based on trust, rather than routine inspections, the inspector general concluded. As a result, it is unclear if there are situations like Crestwood in other parts of the country. Investigators could find just two similar problems during the 1990s, one in Minnesota, and the other in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Federal law does not require the EPA or states to monitor emergency wells like the one in Crestwood. That means neither the EPA nor states know if other communities face health risks from the improper use of contaminated water supplies. Nationwide, more than 6,700 water systems maintain emergency supplies, according to EPA records. Source: http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/10/epa-urges-tougher-inspections-of-emergencywater-supplies.html

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: Fusion Center (24/7): 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov; Fax: 701-328-8175
State Radio: 800-472-2121 Bureau of Criminal Investigation: 701-328-5500 Highway Patrol: 701-328-2455
US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400 Bismarck FBI: 701-223-4875 Fargo FBI: 701-232-7241

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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